ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

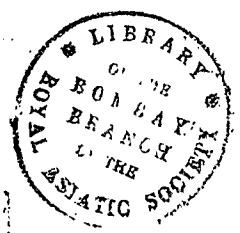
REFORMATORY SCHOOL

AT

YERAVDA

FOR THE

YEAR 1911.



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From

N. M. PAJNIGAR, Esquire, B.A.,
Superintendent, Yerávda Reformatory School;

To

The DIRECTOR of PUBLIC INSTRUCTION,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Yerávda, 20th February 1912.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit the following brief report of this Reformatory for the calendar year 1911.

Number in School.

2. (*a*) The number of boys on the 1st of January 1911 was 195, of whom 162 were in the Reformatory itself and 33 were employed outside on licenses. The number of new admissions during the year was 29 and that of escaped boys recaptured was 4. The number discharged during the same period was 38 owing to expiry of the term of their sentence *plus* 2 by order of Government; one boy was released on appeal; one, a licensed boy, was sentenced to undergo six months' imprisonment for having committed theft in his employer's house and 8 licensed boys absconded from their employers. Thus the number of boys on 31st December 1911 was 178; and of these, 25 were serving out on licenses. The average daily number of boys in School for the year was 159·2 against 159·4 for the preceding year.

(*b*) Of the 178 boys in the Reformatory on the last day of the year, 3 were under twelve years of age, 21 were under fourteen years, 76 under sixteen years and the remaining 78 were either of or over sixteen years.

(*c*) Among these 178 boys 90 were Other Hindus, 37 were Low-Castes, 40 Mahomedans, 7 Brahmans and 4 Christians.

(*d*) Sixty-eight of them used Maráthi for their vernacular, 43 Gujaráti, 33 Hindustáni, 15 Sindhi, 8 Kánarese, 10 Telugu and 1 Arabic.

(*e*) Of the 178 boys, 170 belonged to the British Territory and the remaining 8 to the Nizam's Territory.

Admissions.

3. (*a*) The number of boys admitted during the year was, as mentioned already, 29 of whom 4 were eleven years old, 3 twelve years old, 10 thirteen years old and 12 fifteen years old. It will be observed that as many as 25 out of 29 admissions or 86·2 per cent. were of the age of twelve years or over.

(*b*) As regards the nature of the offences committed by these 29 newly admitted boys, 21 were convictions of theft and 4 of house-breaking; while of the remaining 4, one was of causing hurt, one of unnatural offence, one of rape, and one of culpable homicide not amounting to murder. The value of stolen property in a few of the cases was considerable, being Rs. 1,158 in one, Rs. 329 in another and Rs. 298 in a third. It was less than Rs. 100 but more than Rs. 10 in six cases and within Rs. 10 in the rest.

(*c*) According to the periods of sentence, one boy has to undergo 6 years' detention, 12 have to do 5 years, 10 four years, 1 three years and a half and 5 three years.

(*d*) Four of the 29 were sent from the city of Bombay, 4 from Dhárwár, 3 each from Poona, Belgaum and Ahmedabad, 2 each from Thána, Násik and Karáchi, and 1 each from Ahmednagar, Sátára, Sholápur, East Khándesh, Kolába and Aden.

(*e*) Of the 29, one had three and one two previous convictions, 10 had one previous conviction and the rest were all first offenders.

(*f*) Seven out of the 29 could read and write their own vernacular, but the remaining 22 were utterly illiterate.

Conduct and Punishment.

4. The behaviour of the boys was good on the whole. The total number of school offences reported during the year was 21 against 28 of the preceding year and the number of boys implicated in them was 28 as against 36. Among the 21 offences, 5 were of theft of fruit from the garden or of some article of wearing apparel belonging to other boys, 4 of damaging school property such as breaking panes of glass or tools, 5 of assaulting or abusing one another or showing insolence to the watchmen and 7 of possessing prohibited articles, *viz.*, *biddis*. Four boys were only warned, and the punishments awarded in the rest of the cases were penal diet in one, stoppage of marks in another, reduction from monitorship in two cases, a few cuts on hand with a light ratan in 19 cases and flogging in one case. To this may be added the punishments awarded to 3 of the licensed boys who absconded from their employers and were recaptured and to 3 others who committed thefts while out on license. One of the latter was given 6 months' rigorous imprisonment and the other two as well as the former three were ordered to receive a flogging of 12 stripes each.

Discharged Juveniles.

5. (*a*) Of the 38 boys discharged on expiry of sentence, 13 had learnt gardening, 11 carpentry, 5 smith's work, 5 book-binding and compositor's work, 3 painting and varnishing and 1 tailoring. The last was a boy transferred from the Jubbulpore Reformatory, where he had learnt tailor's work which he was allowed to continue as long as he was here although we have no tailoring class in the Reformatory. Twenty-one of these 38 were discharged in the second half of the year and the half-yearly reports regarding their career had not become due at the end of the year. Of the remaining 17, 8 are occupied in trades learnt in school, 5 are hand labourers, 3 cannot be traced and 1 is not yet reported on.

(*b*) The statement, "Reformatory Schools—II," appended to this report furnishes information regarding the after-career of the juveniles discharged in the three years preceding the year of report. As shown therein, in all 115 youths were discharged in the preceding triennium. Forty-two of them are reported as still following the occupations taught to them while in the Reformatory, 44 are engaged in other industries, 6 are living with their parents, 6 have died, 3 have been reconvicted and 14 remain untraced. The percentage of boys earning an honest livelihood is 84·4 and that of untraced boys is 12·1.

Licensed Boys.

6. (*a*) The number of boys serving out on license on the first day of the year was 33, and 32 new licenses were issued in the course of the year. Nineteen out of these were released on expiry of sentence, 8 absconded of whom 4 have been recaptured, 12 returned to the Reformatory and one was sent to jail, the number remaining out on licenses on the last day of the year being 25. Two of them are employed as carpenters, 4 as blacksmiths, 2 as compositors, 6 as factory-boys, 9 as gardeners and 2 as bakers. Three have been on license for more than a year and a half, 4 for over a year, 10 for more than six months, 5 for more and the remaining 3 for less than three months.

(*b*) Some half a dozen boys from the school were employed on general outdoor work which they did quite satisfactorily without giving any cause of complaint and performed the duty assigned in each case with promptness and fidelity.

Marks and Gratuity.

7. The monthly average number of boys who earned gratuity by good behaviour and diligence in the classes was 159, being one more than in the preceding year. The amount of gratuity earned was Rs. 489-8-6 and the amount disbursed as such to discharged boys was Rs. 342-13-9 against Rs. 458-2-6 and Rs. 327-3-6 respectively of the provious year. The average earning per boy was Rs. 9-0-4 for the year against Rs. 8-13-3 for 1910.

Health and Sanitation.

8. (*a*) The year was a good one again as regards health. In all 21 cases were treated in the school hospital and cured with the exception of one, a lingering case of uncertain origin which latterly turned out to be that of tubercle of lung. The boy was transferred for better treatment to the Sassoon Hospital where he died on the 12th instant. Among the 21 cases, 4 were of malaria, 2 of pneumonia, 1 of enteric fever, 1 of rheumatic fever, 1 of accidental burn, 1 of phymosis and the rest were minor ailments. There was only one case of diarrhœa, not a single case of dysentery nor any death during the whole year. In the month of July one of the boys was bitten by a rabid dog and was sent at once to Coonoor for treatment which lasted for 3 weeks after which he returned and has been keeping good health ever since. The daily average number of sick patients was 1·6 against 1·7 of last year.

(*b*) Major H. J. R. Twigg, M.B., I.M.S., Superintendent of the Yerávda Central Prison, supervised the medical work throughout the year and it was owing to his valuable advice, skilled assistance and unremitting care that the cases of pneumonia and enteric fever were cured for which we are much indebted to him.

Buildings and Accommodation.

9. The work of alterations and additions to the existing buildings according to the revised scheme sanctioned by Government was commenced last November and is going on apace. It is expected to be finished in about a year and a half.

Diet and Clothing.

10. There was no alteration in the diet and clothing which remained as in previous years.

Industries.

11. (*a*) No new industry was added to those that are being taught in the school. These are gardening, carpentry, blacksmith's work, painting and varnishing and book-binding with a little of compositor's work. Usually sufficient work in these industries is found for the learners. But during the year there was practically no work in the book-binding workshop. The total number of books bound and repaired was 4,064 against 29,443 in the previous year and that of carriages done up 103. In addition to these, 257 articles of furniture such as tables, chairs, stools, teapais, screens and picture-frames were made and repaired in the year. The gross value of manufactured articles for the year was Rs. 4,642-0-2 against Rs. 5,469-2-2 of the preceding year. The cost of raw materials and the amount to be deducted on account of depreciation of tools and plant, bad debts, etc., were Rs. 3,250-11-0 and Rs. 303-6-11, which left a net profit of Rs. 1,087-14-3 being a little less than that for the previous year which was Rs. 1,115-0-5. The number of boys engaged in the different trades was 78, of whom 21 were practising carpentry, 11 smithy, 20 painting and varnishing and 26 book-binding.

(*b*) The value of garden produce was Rs. 657-15-0 and the working expenses for the garden amounted to Rs. 432-5-7, leaving a balance of Rs. 325-9-5 as net profit from this branch of industry. The number of boys following gardening was 75, of whom 18 were also learning horticulture.

(*c*) As usual the Reformatory exhibited in several classes at the last year's Flower Show of the Agri-Horticultural Society and a consolidated prize of Rs. 25 was awarded for the exhibits which were much admired; especially the Zinnias and the Capsicums which were adjudged worthy of special prizes in their respective classes.

Maintenance Charges.

12. The gross maintenance charges for the year amounted to Rs. 23,605-5-7 against Rs. 22,610-7-5. The increase in the expenditure was due to enhanced prices of provisions in the latter half of the year. The total profit realized in the year as shown in the preceding paragraph was Rs. 1,413-7-8 and the contributions from Native States for boys belonging to their territories and confined in the Reformatory were Rs. 1,425-15-3, while the total of miscellaneous receipts amounted to Rs. 115-12-0. Deducting these 3 items from the gross expenditure, the net charge on Provincial Funds for the maintenance of the institution during the year 1911 was Rs. 20,650-2-8 against Rs. 18,834-10-3 in 1910.

Establishment.

13. There were no changes in the teaching staff which remained at the same strength as in the previous year. I was away on privilege leave for the whole month of December and Mr. V. A. Mogbe, Deputy Superintendent, acted for me during my absence, managing the school efficiently.

Education.

14. (*a*) The school was examined by the Deputy Educational Inspector, Poona on the 26th July, the results being very fair on the whole. A few weak points were observed in the Gujaráthi classes which are being carefully attended to. Out of the 90 boys examined in Standards I to V, 74, *i.e.*, 82·2 per cent. passed in all the heads and in the infant class out of 31 boys, 30 did well.

(*b*) For the Sir J. J. School of Art Examinations 16 candidates were sent up, out of whom 5 passed, 2 in the 1st grade, 1 in the 2nd and 2 in the 3rd grade.

Exercise and Recreation.

15. During the hour of recreation the boys perform gymnastic exercises and play native games as well as cricket. In several friendly matches played during the season with some of the amateur cricket clubs of the city and the neighbourhood, the school team was successful. They were taken out to see, in addition to the other usual sights, the military parade and the illuminations and fireworks at Poona on the occasion of their Most Gracious Majesties' Durbar held at Delhi. In the afternoon sports were held and prizes consisting of wearing apparel were awarded to the winners in various items. Coronation medals were distributed to them. They were also given a feast after the native style which they enjoyed greatly. In short, everything was done to create a permanent impression of that memorable occasion on their minds.

Visiting Committee.

16. Twelve monthly inspection meetings and one annual general meeting were held during the year. Among other visitors besides the usual members of the Committee were the Hon'ble Mr. W. H. Sharp, Director of Public Instruction, Lieutenant-Colonel J. Jackson, I.M.S., Inspector-General of Prisons and Mr. Denning, Superintendent of Industries and Assistant Director of Public Instruction, Bengal, who visited the school in August and after going round the institution was pleased to remark that he was very favourably impressed with all he saw at the Reformatory.

Mrs. Ramabai Ranade, whose interest in the improvement and welfare of the inmates of this school continues undiminished, gave them a feast costing Rs. 70 on 25th February in commemoration of the anniversary of her deceased husband, the late Mr. Justice M. G. Ranade, which was extremely kind of her and earned the gratitude and benedictions of so many destitute souls.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

N. M. PAJNIGAR,

Superintendent, Yerávda Reformatory.

REFORMATORY SCHOOLS—I.

Number in the school in 1911.

Schools	1
Pupils.	
Number on the first day of the year	195
Admitted during the year	29
Recaptured during the year	4
Discharged during the year	41
Escaped during the year	8
Reconvicted during the year	1
Number on the last day of the year	178
Education on admission.	
Able to read	22
Illiterate	156
Religion.	
Hindus	134
Mahomedans	40
Christians	4
Instruction.	
Taught agriculture	84
Taught other industries	94
	Rs. a. p.
Net expenditure	20,650 2 8

REFORMATORY SCHOOLS—II.

After-conduct of boys discharged during the three years preceding the year of report.

1. Total number discharged in the three years	115
2. Number discharged who were taught agriculture	42
3. Number in entry (2) occupied in agriculture	12
4. Number who were taught other trades and handicrafts	73
5. Number in entry (4) occupied in the trades and handicrafts	30
6. Occupied in industries not taught them in the School	44
7. Unemployed or with friends	6
8. Reconvicted	3
9. Died	6
10. Untraceable	14

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Superintendent, Yerávda Reformatory School.

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